

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

RIORDAN ET AL.

Atty. Ref.: 1137-12

Appl. No.

Group: Unassigned

Filed: October 23, 2003

Examiner: Unassigned

For: LATERAL CONNECTION SYSTEM

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October 23, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A connection system comprising:
first and second pipes for flowing a fluid;
one of said first and second pipes having a female fitting in fluid communication with the one pipe, said fitting having straight, non-tapered female threads;